

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BAGHDA 00592 181115Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 CU-04 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /080 W
-----040983 190748Z /10

R 180725Z MAR 78
FM USINT BAGHDAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5861
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY ROME

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BAGHDAD 0592

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, CVIS, SHUM, IZ, US
SUBJECT: IRAQI-AMERICAN DELEGATION MEETS WITH
SADDAM HUSSEIN, WHO PLEDGES EQUAL TREATMENT
OF CHRISTIANS

REF: BAGHDAD 0541 (NOTAL)

1. DELEGATION MET WITH RCC DEPUTY CHAIRMAN SADDAM
HUSSEIN MARCH 13 AND HAVE RECEIVED EXTENSIVE MEDIA
FANFARE. FULSOME COVERAGE BY PRESS AND TV STRESSES
RECITAL BY HUSSEIN OF IRAQ'S DEVELOPMENT GOALS AND
PRAISE BY VISITORS FOR IRAQ'S ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL
PROGRESS. DELEGATION MEMBERS ALSO MADE STATEMENTS
DENYING THAT RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION EXISTS IN IRAQ.

2. DELEGATION IS HEADED BY FATHER GEORGE GARMO AND
ONE OTHER CHALDEAN CLERIC. OTHER NINE MEMBERS, ALL
APPARENTLY FROM DETROIT AREA, INCLUDE MANUEL MARIYAM,
PRESIDENT OF THE IRAQI AND CHALDEAN ASSOCIATION OF
MICHIGAN, AND FAYSAL ARABO OF THE VOICE OF ARAB
EMIGRES BROADCASTING STATION IN DETROIT. ALL APPEAR
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BAGHDA 00592 181115Z

TO BE CHRISTIANS.

3. GARMO TOLD A HIGHLY RELIABLE USINT SOURCE THAT
MEETING WITH SADDAM HUSSEIN WAS ARRANGED BY
NATIONAL COMMAND MEMBER ABDUL MAJID AL-RAFI'I,
WHO VISITED DETROIT LAST YEAR. HUSSEIN WAS VERY
CORDIAL AND ASSURED GROUP OF GOVERNMENT'S DETERMINATION

TO TREAT IRAQI CHRISTIANS EQUALLY WITH MUSLIMS AND
TO CONTINUE FULL FREEDOM OF RELIGION. A LENGTHY,
EMBARRASSED SILENCE MET HUSSEIN'S RATHER PLAINTIVE QUESTION
WHY MEMBERS OF CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES WERE EMIGRATING.
DELICATE ISSUE OF 34 IRAQI CHRISTIANS CLAIMING POLITICAL
ASYLUM DID NOT ARISE IN MEETING.
MACK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, CHRISTIANS, MEETINGS, POLITICAL LEADERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BAGHDA00592
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780121-0835
Format: TEL
From: BAGHDAD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780352/aaaabrpl.tel
Line Count: 69
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3ba47cc4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 BAGHDAD 541
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3284048
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: IRAQI-AMERICAN DELEGATION MEETS WITH SADDAM HUSSEIN, WHO PLEDGES EQUAL TREATMENT OF CHRISTIANS
TAGS: PEPR, CVIS, SHUM, IZ, US, (HUSSEIN, SADDAM)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3ba47cc4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014